

2 OCT 1948

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GENERAL

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1. Possible Soviet reversal on Palestine--US Embassy [redacted] has been informed by [redacted] that Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Zorin told him that the Soviet position concerning Palestine is now subject to review because the partition plan of 29 November 1947 is not being carried out. The implication, according to source, was that a dramatic Soviet reversal might take place if the UN General Assembly attempted any solution for Palestine other than reaffirmation of its original resolution.

(CIA Comment: CIA does not believe that the USSR will change its support in the General Assembly from the Israelis to the Arabs. CIA believes, however, that the Soviet Union will oppose the adoption of a solution based on the US-UK supported Bernadotte proposals and will insist upon the original UN partition plan.)

2. Netherlands accepts US proposals--The Department of State has informed US Consul Batavia that the Netherlands Government has accepted the US plan as a basis for further negotiations with the Republican Government. The Department feels that the conditions attached by the Dutch to their acceptance of the proposals are "eminently reasonable."

EUROPE

3. FRANCE: Coal strike reported inevitable--US Embassy Paris has been advised [redacted] that the general coal strike scheduled for 4 October by the Communist-controlled General Confederation of Labor (CGT) now appears inevitable. This official believes that the Communists are determined to provoke a test of strength between the CGT and the Government and that a deadlock will result because the Government cannot yield without losing more

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prestige than it can now afford. [] further reports that Communist strategy calls next for strikes among dockworkers, designed especially to paralyze coal imports.

(CIA Comment: CIA concurs that the CGT has planned the coal strike as a critical test of strength with the battered Queuille Government and believes that recent CGT successes in exploiting the economic grievances of the French workers enhance the appeal of the CGT to non-Communist labor.)

NEAR EAST-AFRICA

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4. INDIA: Pakistan asked to withdraw troops from Kashmir--
According to [] the Government of Pakistan has received a telegram from Prime Minister Nehru of India declaring that the presence of Pakistan troops in Kashmir, which has been confirmed by the UN Kashmir Commission, constitutes an "act of aggression against the Indian Union" that can only lead to conflict. Nehru asks that Pakistan withdraw its troops immediately. The Embassy believes that the US should clearly indicate to the Government of India that "an attack on Pakistan or an attempt to eject Pakistan troops from Kashmir territory while the Kashmir dispute is still before the UN Commission will be strongly opposed by the US Government."

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